Root Concerns

Notes from the underground

SAGUARO SERENADE

I’ve cleaned out my suitcase and dusted off my boots, but my mind is still in Arizona. Our group of sun-seeking Master Gardeners have just returned from a tour of Sonoran desert gardens, from Phoenix to Tucson. We heard early April’s tales of Hudson Valley winds, clouds and snow flurries and chuckled, supremely smug in the 90 degree heat. My primary goal was to see the giant saguaro cacti (*Carnegiea gigantea*) in their native habitat. While I was prepared to like the saguaros, I didn’t expect to find the entire Sonoran ecosystem so enchanting.

Even life-long New Yorkers can recognize the saguaro, if only from a taco box, Marlboro ad or western movie. The towering cacti, sometimes with branching arms, sometimes just a solemn spear, are icons of the American West, but actually live only in the Sonoran desert, which covers much of southern Arizona, a bit of California and some of Mexico. Saguaro are not native to Texas, New Mexico, or Colorado, but arts and advertising often put them there. A saguaro can live for up to 200 years and won’t grow an arm until at least 50 years old. It may then grow only one, or several, and judging from the 430 pictures I took of them, the arms vary greatly in length and shape.

Desert heat and drought demand that you pace yourself, whether man or cactus. Saguaro grows extremely slowly. Officials at the Saguaro National Park, near Tucson, say that a saguaro grows only one to one point five inches in the first eight years of its life. This rate is even slower in dryer areas – Tucson gets about twelve inches of rain annually, while Phoenix gets only eight. They can tolerate frost, but only a little. On a trip...
from Phoenix northward into the mountains, our guide pointed out the last saguaro, near the abandoned mining town of Bumblebee. Any higher in elevation is too chilly for the saguaros. Don’t believe the artist’s depictions of them wearing a sombrero and serape – they prefer to go au naturale.

At age 35, a saguaro may produce flowers on its apices. These are bell-shaped, white, about 3 inches across, and smell like very ripe melons. Many creatures pollinate the saguaros, including bees, birds and bats, and many others feed on the ripe red fruits. As part of their centuries old traditional practices, the Tohono O'odham Indians knock the fruits down using the inner skeletons of dead saguaros as poles, then make them into syrup, jam, candy and wine, or eat them raw. Ceremonial imbibing of the wine encourages the life-giving summer rainstorms, known as monsoons. Seeds which fall into the shade of a nurse tree, usually a palo verde or mesquite, may germinate into baby saguaros. As a seedling grows, it kills off its nurse by hogging soil moisture and nutrients. No one ever said saguaros were polite, only successful.

After visiting the desert, I can understand why the Tohono O’odham hold the useful, resourceful and majestic saguaro in very high regard.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY DAVID CHINERY
Root Concerns
Volume 13, Number 3
Page 3

Counting Trees

The NYSDEC’s Urban Forestry Grant has funded Tree Inventory Projects for the City of Schenectady, Town of Glenville and Town of Rotterdam

The City of Schenectady and Towns of Glenville and Rotterdam have just kicked off tree inventory projects that will take place over the next few months. Teams of 2 to 4 certified arborists from Davey Resource Group will be mapping trees in selected neighborhoods and parks.

Funding for these grants was awarded through the NYSDEC’s Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program, in response to applications submitted by the Schenectady County Environmental Advisory Council’s (SCEAC’s) Invasive Species Committee and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schenectady County (CCESC).

Davey arborists will assess each tree’s condition and stability, identify damaged or dead materials, and evaluate any signs of decay, disease or insects. Tree inventories provide information about the tree population such as its distribution, diversity, and stocking level. These qualities are central to maximizing the community benefits that trees provide. Properly placed and managed trees cleanse the air we breathe, intercept rainfall, reduce the amount of runoff that reaches storm sewers, provide shade that helps conserve energy by cooling buildings and surfaces such as concrete, help to absorb carbon dioxide that contributes to climate change, and improve property values. The results of the inventories will help the city and towns strategically plan, prioritize, and budget tree removals, plantings, and maintenance. In this way, the benefits public trees provide will continue to enhance the quality of life in Schenectady County. Additionally, the inventory process will allow for additional funding during future grant cycles.

If you would like to learn more about the tree inventory and invasive forest pest and diseases in Schenectady County, CCESC will be hosting an informational meeting on Thursday, May 10, at 6:00 pm at the Sustainable Living Center, located at 180 PTL Arthur Chaires Lane, Schenectady, NY 12309. For general information about the project, please visit www.cceschenectady.org or call 518-372-1622 ext. 255.

Text by Angie Tompkins
Lurking In The Soil...

As memories of the storms and temperature rollercoaster that was the Winter of 2017-18 begin to fade, gardeners in the Capital District turn their focus from the seed and garden supply catalogues to their garden beds as they plan their strategy for producing the most dramatic flowers and the most prolific vegetables. However, this year, there may be a denizen lurking in their soil. The jumping worm.

What's the problem? Asian earthworms, *Amynthas agrestis* (a.k.a. crazy worms, snake worms, and Alabama jumpers) have been discovered in New York, New England, the mid-west, mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states. As their common name infers, these worms differ from European worms in behavior and appearance. They thrash wildly and jump when handled. They are also able to shed their tails as a defensive move. Smooth and glossy gray or brown, these invasive worms can grow up to 8 inches in length. Another distinguishing feature is the smooth, sometimes milky white band near the head of the worm (clitellum) which completely encircles the body. European worms have a raised, segmented saddle-like clitellum.

Why all the fuss? Like the European worm, these Asian jumping worms alter the soil structure. They rob plants of vital nutrients by consuming organic matter - leaf litter as well as organic mulches. The Asian earthworm devours the organic materials far faster than the European earthworm. These invasives grow twice as fast and reproduce quickly, making it possible to infest soils at high densities. Jumping worms can severely damage the roots of plants in nurseries, forests, turf areas and home gardens. They also contribute to the spread of invasive plants by disturbing the soil.

How do they spread? These prolific worms reproduce asexually. While the adult worm dies in late fall, their young survive the winter in tiny, resilient, dirt-colored cocoons that are impossible to see with the naked eye. So, if you are looking for these unwanted residents in your garden beds, they will not be easily visible until June.

How can I tell if I have them? – Look for them on the soil surface, not deep in the soil. After consuming the nutrients in organic materials, the Asian jumping worms leave the soil with a grainy texture, resembling coffee grounds. If you do discover these “intruders” in your garden beds, the best way to reduce the population is to catch them and place them in a plastic bag. Seal the bag and place it in the sun for at least 10 minutes and then throw the bag away.

What can a home gardener do? There is no natural predator for these worms and pesticides have not proven to be effective. Since these denizens can find their way to your compost pile, vegetable garden or perennial border via a plant dug from a friend’s garden, a tree from an arborist or any plant material not grown in a sterile medium, the home gardener must be very careful about the source of new plant material. It is also important to make sure that any compost that you purchase or use has been effectively heated to the appropriate levels to reduce pathogens. The gardener should also remove any soil from tools, equipment and boots before moving to another location.

What are the Albany County Master Gardeners doing? In the face of the jumping worm dilemma, the Master Gardeners of Albany County have had to make a change in their annual Garden Education Day Plant Sale. This annual event raises the monies that the Master Gardener Volunteer Program uses for a variety of garden projects at public/historical sites such as Schuyler Mansion and Ten Broeck Mansion, Pine Hills Library and numerous schools as well as garden-based learning programming for young and old.

The focus of Garden Education Day 2018 on Saturday, May 19 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM will be educating the public about the dangers of the Asian jumping worm and methods that can be used to curb the spread of these garden denizens. Due to the fact that we cannot guarantee that perennials we dig up to sell will not contain the cocoons of these worms, there will be no dug plants offered for sale. There will be a large supply of annuals and vegetables that have been started from seed as well as educational demonstrations about a variety of gardening practices including what to do about Asian jumping worms.

Still have questions? Visit [www.ccealbany.com](http://www.ccealbany.com) or call your local Cornell Cooperative Extension office to speak to a Master Gardener.
What to do in April

* Put in cool weather crops as soon as the ground can be worked and the weather gets somewhat stable. Transplants of broccoli, cabbage, onion, arugla, asparagus and rhubarb may be planted at this time of year.

* Direct seed lettuce, parsley, peas, radishes, and spinach. Seeds of many other plants, from marigolds to tomatoes, can be started indoors. Many of you may have already started seeds, human nature being what it is.

* When the forsythia begins to flaunt its blossoms, it is the traditional time to begin the battle against crabgrass. A pre-emergent treatment will prevent the crabgrass seed from germinating, and will head off many problems with this persistent pest. Of course, if you don’t want to use pesticides, try repetitive overseeding in the fall. See our overseeding fact sheet here: https://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.cce.cornell.edu/attachments/29789/2017_Repetitive_Overseeding_Conquers_Crabgrass_2018.pdf?1522786095

* If your grass is showing a spurt of activity, don’t be too eager to get out there with the lawn mower. Wait for about 2.5 to 3 inches of growth for ideal condition. If you did not get your lawn mower and other tools cleaned up for winter now is a good time to take care of them.

* Make note which lawn areas need reseeding and do so promptly once the soil is dry enough.

* Turn your compost pile and work finished compost into your beds.

* Prune only dead wood from trees and shrubs and wait until after bloom to prune shrubs.

Text by Rensselaer County Master Gardeners
Berms are good design elements for an urban or suburban yard.

These independent beds can be created in a day or weekend by adding a low mound of topsoil.

This gives you an immediate clean slate, and the slight elevation really sets off plants, especially specimen trees.

Planting key:
1) Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)
2) New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)
3) Rose Verbena (*Glandularia canadensis*)
4) Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
5) Aromatic Aster (*Aster oblongifolius*)
6) Prairie Blazing Star (*Liatris pycnostachya*)
7) Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
8) Lanceleaf Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
9) Downy Phlox (*Phlox pilosa* ssp. *ozarkana*)
10) Shining Blue Star (*Amsonia illustris*)
11) Butterfly watering hole

Cornell Cooperative Extension Schenectady County, 107 Nott Terrace, Suite 301, Schenectady, NY 12308  Tel: 518 372-1622
The Hummingbird Haven is similar to the Butterfly Berm, concentrating on masses of nectar producing flowers of various vibrant hues including Blue Sage, Yellow Honeysuckle, Foxglove Beardtongue, and Red Buckeye.

The addition of a hummingbird feeder or water mister can keep the ruby-throated wonders around from mid-spring to early fall.

Planting key:
1) Yellow Honeysuckle on a trellis (Lonicera flava)
2) Royal Catchfly (Silene regia)
3) Blue Sage (Salvia azurea)
4) Red Buckeye (Aesculus pavia)
5) Columbine (Aquilegia Canadensis)
6) Wild Bergamot (Monarda fistulosa)
7) Garden Phlox (Phlox paniculata)
8) Foxglove Beardtongue (Penstemon digitalis)
9) Purple Beardtongue (Penstemon cobaea)
10) Rose Verbena (Glandularia Canadensis)
The Sex Life of Moss

One day my sister called me and said something like this: “I was looking at some moss that is growing by the side of the garage, and I noticed that some moss plants had a little straight stem on top of them. What is that?” I told her that those moss plants were female and they had recently had sex. Explain!

If you look at moss plants, you will see that some have a pointed tip and some have a flat tip. (I call the tip a head.) Those with the pointed head are female and those with the flat head are male. As an aside that still amuses me, I will tell you of an experience I had years ago. I used to teach botany and, under the microscope, it is quite easy to see the sperm-bearing structures as well as the egg-bearing structures. I was on my hands and knees in the middle of a big moss patch on Peebles Island when two people walked up me and said, “We know what you’re doing!” I was surprised and said “You do?” They assumed I was looking for my contact lens. When I told them I was looking for male and female moss plants, they thought I was some kind of nut and hastily walked away.

Anyway, back to the moss. Moss sperm have to swim to an egg. Having a flat head is an advantage in that rain can splash sperm a great distance, hopefully somewhere near the egg. (Rereading the last sentence, I need to clarify that a “great distance” for a sperm might mean a millimeter.) The egg is in a multicellular structure, called an archegonium; one egg per archegonium. An archegonium has a swollen belly (venter) containing the egg as well as a neck leading to the venter. The sperm must swim through the neck and finally reach the egg. Think of how difficult this is! The poor sperm has to swim in rainwater or dew in the outside world and then through the neck of the archegonium before reaching the egg. Once the sperm has merged with the egg, the resulting cell is a zygote. The zygote is the first cell that’s diploid (two sets of genetic material). The zygote starts to divide and grows into that straight stem that my sister noted growing out of the top of some moss plants. The diploid generation produces spores and, therefore it’s called the sporophyte generation. At the top of the sporophyte is the sporangium, the structure in which spores are produced. Spores are produced by meiosis, a special division that halves the genetic material. So spores are the first cells that are monoploid (one set of genetic material). Spores are produced at the very tippy top of a moss plant. Spores are the agents of dispersal. Spores are very light and, being produced at the top of a moss plant, means that they have the greatest chance of being dispersed far away from the parent plant. When a spore lands, it may begin to divide and grow into the familiar green moss plant. Since the green moss plant produces gametes (sex cells), the green generation is called the gametophyte generation. So sexual reproduction in moss, as in all plants, consists of an alternation between the gametophyte and the sporophyte generations.

Text by Rensselaer County Master Gardener Inge Eley
This month’s photos come from Master Gardener Richard Demick. Richard writes, “Quaker Hill Native Garden in Pawling, New York, was created by philanthropist William B. Ziff, Jr. on a 350 acre site. The goal was to create a southern Appalachian ecology on one side of the ridge and northern ecology on the other. The garden contains 12 miles of trails, roads and path. There are 24 waterfalls, 10,000 planted trees, 45 acres of ponds and 1000 introduced plant species. The majority of the rocks, trees, ponds and water features were constructed or brought to the site. Mature trees were transplanted. Rocks and boulders were imported, often cut in pieces and reassembled. Water features are fed from man-made ponds. It is a private garden. Guided group tours were by invitation when I had the opportunity to visit several years ago.”
Life Down Under

Soon, very soon I hope, we will be able to go outside and play in the dirt. Now at least one of you out there is scowling, thinking “It’s soil, not dirt,” and of course you are absolutely correct. So let me be clear that I respect soil and I am fascinated by soil. I even owe my existence to soil – in fact, we all do. Maybe that is why gardeners go ecstatic digging, feeling, and smelling good garden soil during the first warm days of spring. It is a ritual we happily anticipate, a high point on the green liturgical calendar.

Dr. Kyle Wickings and his graduate student Maxwell Helmberger at Cornell are also mad about soil – and especially the microarthropods which live there. A new offering on the Wickings Lab’s website, entitled “The Soil Animal Handbook,” takes us down beneath the ground’s surface to visit many of the creatures which make their homes amongst the roots and rocks. At first glance this might seem a dry topic, but through beautiful photographs and creative prose the Handbook is more lighthearted romp than dusty trudge. Witness these opening words: “From the deepest forests to the driest deserts to your own backyard, the Earth’s soils are full of life! Millions of wriggling, skittering, crawling creatures call the soil home, and in their daily doings make possible all the benefits that soil gives us. A single gram of soil can contain 1 billion bacterial cells, and a square yard of forest soil can contain tens or even hundreds of thousands of tiny microarthropods! Many soil animals are too small to see without microscopes, but for many others, the naked eye or a simple magnifying glass is sufficient.” Hang on to your spades, garden nerds, sounds like soil science!

So why are these creatures so crucial? They hold important jobs. Many break down or decompose organic matter, which releases nutrients that nourish plants. Others aerate the soil and increase water infiltration. Feeding on crop pests or pollinating plants keeps others busy, while some (like the white grubs which turn into Japanese beetles) are pests themselves. The Handbook portrays creatures familiar to gardeners, including the sometimes pestiferous orangey wireworms which turn into click beetles, and the curious earwigs, with pincer-like cerci on their hind ends. Then there are the more mysterious. Diminutive root aphids suck plant sap just like the aphids perched on stems, and are sometimes tended by ants in exchange for their sticky honeydew. Elongated, pale yellow diplurans patrol the depths eating springtails, mites and fungi. Pseudoscorpions have threatening lobster-like claws to catch and eat prey, but lack a stinging tail. Tongue-like, tiny red velvet mites use their bright color to warn predators of their foul taste and toxic nature.

If you need a pet, the Handbook also offers guidance on collecting and keeping soil animals in captivity for further study and fellowship. They’re free for the taking, quiet, cheap to keep and fun for all ages.

Text by David Chinery
“The American landscape has no foreground and the American mind has no background.”

Edith Wharton (1861-1937), American novelist

Gardening Questions?

Call The Master Gardeners!

In Albany County: Call 765-3514 weekdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and ask to speak to a Master Gardener. You can also email your questions by visiting their website at www.ccealbany.com

In Schenectady County: Call 372-1622 weekdays from 9:00 AM to Noon, follow the prompt to speak to a Master Gardener and press #1. You can also email your questions by visiting their website at http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/schenectady/

In Rensselaer County: Call 272-4210 weekdays from 9:00 AM to Noon and ask to speak to a Master Gardener. You can also email your questions to Dhc3@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County
David Chinery (dhc3@cornell.edu and (518) 272-4210)
Newsletter editor, designer and layout technician

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County
(518) 765-3516

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schenectady County
Angie Tompkins (amj22@cornell.edu and (518) 372-1622)

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“Root Concerns: Notes from the underground” is a shared publication of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer, Albany and Schenectady Counties. It is published by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County.
Here are the details:

Classes are held at the
62 State St, Troy, NY.

Classes are taught by Extension.

Upper level classes are canceled or last minute registration
weather-related cancellation or last
minute registration.

Classes for Gardeners
Seasons Through Gardening

We are pleased to offer our
Welcome!

Directions:
From the Noveltown (exit 87) Take Exit 70.
From the highway (exit 22 off Thruway) Turn right onto

2018
April & May
Spring Trends
**Bushnell Farm Market**

Welcome to our updated schedule of workshops and events. Please note the following changes:

**New Workshop: Hummingbird Garden**

**Monday, May 1st at 7 pm**

**Who: Green Thumb Garden Club**

**What:** Learn about the importance of hummingbirds in the ecosystem and how to create a garden that attracts them. Bring your own hummingbird feeder and learn how to maximize its effectiveness.

**Registration:**

FORM ATTACHED

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**Regent College Cooperatives**

Please make checks payable to Regent College Cooperatives.

**Contact:**

Phone: 312-222-4716
Email: info@regentcollegecooperative.com

**Next Event:**

**Friday, April 19**

**Pruning Demystified**

Thrive with Regent College Cooperatives.

**Tuesday, May 1st at 7 pm**

**Who: Wooden Flowers**

**What:** Learn the art of woodworking and create your own unique wooden flowers. All materials provided.

**Registration:**

FORM ATTACHED

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**Next Event:**

**April 19 at 7 pm**

**Gardening for Beginners**

**Who: Wooden Flowers**

**What:** Learn the basics of gardening and how to start a garden from scratch. All materials provided.

**Registration:**

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FORM ATTACHED
Raised Bed Gardening

April 21, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Raised beds are perfect for new and seasoned gardeners interested in exploring innovative techniques for gardening and maximizing their yield. The course will begin with an overview of raised-bed gardening. Next, we will bring the class outside for a hands-on demonstration by Halfmoon Works, on how to assemble a raised bed kit. Master Gardeners will provide a tour of a new raised bed memorial garden and they will demonstrate how to make a straw bail garden.

CCE has partnered with Halfmoon Works, a local organization that employs young adults with developmental differences to earn a living through wood working. Each class participant will be given a $20.00 voucher from Halfmoon Works that can be used toward the purchase of any size, raised bed garden kit. For more information on the kits, you can visit their website at halfmoonworks.com

$20.00 per person

Please register with payment by April 13

Contact Angie Tompkins for more information amj22@cornell.edu 518-372-1622 ext. 259

Green-Up Your Clean-Up

April 25, 7:00-8:30 pm

Spring Cleaning is here! Learn about reducing your use of household chemicals that are harmful to the environment. Making your own cleaning products is easy and helps save money! In this workshop, you will make simple household cleaning products using all-natural alternatives. All materials will be provided.

$20 per person or $15.00 for those who re-use and bring their own spray-bottle containers.

Please register with payment by April 13

Contact Angelina Peone for more information ap2267@cornell.edu 518-372-1622 ext. 264
**Little Diggers**
Wednesdays, May 16 – June 13
Morning Session 10:00 – 11:15 am
Afternoon Session 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Preschoolers (age 3-5) will discover the wonders of gardening and nature through a series of hands-on educational programs. Each themed class introduces children to gardening including planting and tending the garden; harvesting and tasting; discovering insects in the garden such as ladybugs and butterflies; and much more!

Cost is $80.00 per child

Please register with payment by May 7

Limited need-based scholarships are available. If your child (or you) receives assistance or is eligible for special programs, he/she can be considered for a scholarship to the 2018 Little Diggers program.

Contact Angie Tompkins for more information amj22@cornell.edu 518-372-1622 ext. 259

**The Master Gardener Volunteer Fall Training** is just around the corner! The course begins September 13 and is held once a week until December 13. If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer, please contact Angie Tompkins amj22@cornell.edu 518-372-1622 ext. 259

**HARVEST SHARE 2018**
Roots & Wisdom offers a unique vegetable-buying opportunity to the local community – HARVEST SHARE – a weekly program starting in June and continuing through September. Harvest Share brings together local consumers and a youth agriculture initiative.

Enjoy the bounty of the garden, including eggplant, tomatoes, summer squash, cucumbers, peppers, bunching onions, garlic, salad mix, different herbs, flower bouquets and more. Grown and processed by our youth participants naturally without any chemical. All proceeds go back into our program.

Full share $360
Half Share $200

**PICK-UP OPTIONS:**
1. For the entire duration of the program, Mondays from 12–3 pm.
2. Between July 2nd and August 10th, Thursdays from 2–6 pm.
   For the rest of the program, Thursdays from 12–4 pm.

Contact Hassleer Jacinto Whitcher for more information hj28@cornell.edu 518-380-3838
opportunities

equal program and employer

accurate and provides

where you would

be a week until December 13. If you would

The course begins September 13 and is held

Fall training is just around the corner.

The Master Gardener Volunteer

“Ask the Master Gardener”

Garden Activities for Kids

vermicomposting & Rain Barrel Education

Soil Testing

Mini/Fairi / Container Gardening

~ Native Varieties

Annuals & Perennials

~ Herbs

including heirloom & disease-resistant varieties.

Vegetable Plants

Organically Grown

May 13th – 2 Pm

Spring Plant Sale

of Schenectady County

Cooperative Extension

Cornell University

Schenectady, NY 12309: 3170
County 4H Fairgrounds, Suite 301
Cornell Cooperative Extension Schenectady

Please make checks payable to CCE, SC

Total Remittance $ ________________

Choose click-up/Day/Time:

Mon-Wed 12-3 Pm

Thursday 12-6 Pm

Choose click-up/Day/Time:


Harvest Share Registration


Raised Bed Gardening

April 22nd, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

For those who have already dabbled in the world of raised bed gardening, join us for a deeper dive into the art of growing vegetables in raised beds. You'll learn how to maximize space, improve drainage, and increase yields in your garden. This workshop is perfect for gardeners looking to expand their knowledge and take their raised bed gardening to the next level. With our experienced instructors, you'll be able to ask questions and receive personalized advice to help you achieve your gardening goals.

Contact: 518-390-3983
For more information: @cornelluniversity

Worm Composting

April 17th, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Interested in learning about composting and how to create nutrient-rich soil for your garden? Join our workshop on worm composting. You'll learn how to set up and maintain a worm composting system, as well as the benefits of using worm castings in your garden. This hands-on workshop is ideal for anyone looking to reduce their carbon footprint and create a more sustainable garden.

Contact: 518-390-3983
For more information: @cornelluniversity

Green-up Your Clean-up

April 12th, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Join us for a fun and interactive activity where you can help clean up your community while exploring the world of composting. You'll learn about the importance of composting and how it contributes to a healthier environment. This is a great opportunity for families to engage in a meaningful activity and make a positive impact on their community.

Contact: 518-390-3983
For more information: @cornelluniversity
Come join us rain or shine for

GARDEN EDUCATION DAY
Sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County Master Gardeners

Saturday, May 19, 2018
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County
24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY

PLANT SALE
Annuals • Perennials • Herbs • Vegetables • Native Plants
• Free Educational Demonstrations & Activities
• One Free Soil pH Test ($5 charge for each additional sample)
• Free Memorial Garden Tours
• Garage Sale (opens at 8:30 am)
• Home Baked Goods/Refreshments

Please note: Due to the recent discovery of the invasive Asian Jumping Worm throughout New York State, perennials available for purchase will be limited.
Visit our website at www.ccealbany.com for more information and fact sheet.